

FEB 18 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of FREDRIC GOLDSTEIN)

Serial No.: 09/340,303

) Examiner: KIM, EUGENE LEE

Filing Date: 06/28/99

) Art Unit: 3721

Title: RIBBON CURLING AND SHREDDING DEVICE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, DC 20231

16 February, 2005

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Supplemental Advisory Action and in light of the Interview of February 10, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the instant application.

Applicant would first like to thank Examiner Kim for the courtesy and attention shown him during the aforementioned interview at the PTO. Applicant would also like to thank Examiner Kim for indicating he will allow Claim 27 if dependent Claims 33 and 34 are incorporated therein. Applicant agrees to incorporate Claim 27 as suggested and invokes § 112,6 (although Applicant believes however that the guide of dependent claim 33 and claim 34 are different, with different structures and different

functions). Applicant understands from the Interview that by acquiescing to this suggestion, Examiner Kim would deem such a claim to be allowable.

It will be appreciated that the guide means which controls the approach angle of the ribbon to the drive means may encompass any convex, rounded, or curved structure including wheels and/or rollers which are also convex in nature and which may likewise guide the ribbon to the drive means. It will also be appreciated that even if said roller is powered (e.g. may drive in part the ribbon), if it guides the ribbon to the main drive means, it will fall under this definition.

Applicant also understands from the interview that the dependent claims are allowable as well if dependent upon Claim 27.

Applicant additionally adds Claim 38. Claim 38 includes a fourth claim element of a tracking guide for handling a plurality of ribbon strands (as opposed to the guide means for controlling the approach angle to the drive means, as in Claim 27). Such a structure has its basis in the specification and, moreover, can be found in the preceding US patent no. 6,261,216, which is part of the same family of patents and which the Applicant is the inventor of record and Examiner Kim was primary examiner. Applicant respectfully suggests that no further patent search is required as this same claim element was allowed by Examiner Kim in the '216 patent after proper search and consideration. Applicant additionally remarks that yet another prior art reference would be required beyond the tertiary reference Goldstein '417 and respectfully suggests that the motivation to combine a fourth (as yet unnamed and unknown) prior art reference

would be impermissible hindsight. As stated, in light of the aforementioned allowance of a claim in the '216 patent which incorporates this claim element of the instant application (Claim 38), Applicant believes that this claim as well is now in condition for allowance and requests an expedited Notice of Allowance of all the claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Fredric Goldstein

Pro se Applicant as Inventor of record

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